Norodom Sihanouk and what impact it will have on the solution of the Kampuchean problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) India took part in a Meeting of Senior Officials from selected nonaligned countries in New Delhi on 15-16 July, 1988 to explore the possibility of a nonaligned initiative to resolve the Kampuchea problem. A follow-up meeting of Senior Officials from these countries is tentatively scheduled to be held later in Harare.

(b) India stands for a negotiated political solution of this problem. We would like to see the emergence of a peaceful, independent, sovereign and nonaligned Kampuchea. We supported the Jakarta informal Meeting from July 25-28 this year which we regard as complementary to a possible nonaligned initiative that may be taken in future.

India played a role in bringing about talks between Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen in December 1987/Jan. 1988. At those talks, there was mention of the possibility of Delhi as a venue for a meeting between the two in future. India believes that the Sihanouk-Hun Sen dialogue offers another possible means of promoting a settlement.

(c) Prince Sihanouk had resigned on earlier occasions too. He is a statesman and patriot who has a key role to play in a Kampuchea settlement. We have noted his latest decision. He must have had good reasons for it.

Decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Plants

*134. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian scientists have perfected technology for decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Plants at the end of their life span;

(b) what are the plans for disposing off the nuclear waste; and

(c) when the life span of Tarapur Nuclear Power Plant is scheduled to end and what is the plan for decommissioning it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Technological options for decommissioning nuclear power plants are available and these are based on experience in some of the countries where decommissioning of reactors has been carried out.

(b) The disposal methods are based on the type of wastes. The guiding principle is treatment, immobilisation, containment and surveillance.

(c) The Tarapur Nuclear Power Station will be completing its economic life in 1994-95. However, the station is expected to operate for a longer time and the date of decommissioning will be decided having regard to the performance of various plant components.

Proposal to send IAS officers to USA, UK and France for training

*135. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite criticism and opposition at various levels, Government propose to send IAS and other senior services officers to USA, UK and France for training;

(b) if so, whether such type of training facilities are not available within the country;

(c) what steps have been taken to remove these deficiencies to make the

training of such officers self-sufficient within the country; and

(d) what is the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on each of the trainees proposed to be sent abroad for training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) As has been the practice for more than 30 years, the Government proposes to send IAS Officers and Officers from other services to various countries for training.

Training facilities within the country have yet to reach capacities and develop facilities needed to train a large number of officers on long-term programmes. Foreign Training Programmes also have the advantage of informing trainee officers of administrative approaches and responses in more economically advanced democratic systems.

In-service training of Indian Administrative Service Officers has been a regular part of their service and every officer necessarily undergoes some training or the other every year. Training Institutions both at the national level and state level have been strengthened to cope with the increased training needs of such officers.

The Indian Administrative Service Officers going on various foreign training programmes abroad are paid their full salary while on training and that is the only expenditure borne by the Government. All other expenses are borne by the funding agencies.

Setting up of High Court bench in Dharwar

*136. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish a bench of Karnataka High Court in Dharwar; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Karnataka has requested the Central Government for the establishment of a bench at Hubli-Dharwar.

Pollution in Indian Ocean

*137. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 22nd June, 1988 under the caption "Oil slicks polluting Indian Ocean";

(b) if so, whether the oil slicks from tanker ships are polluting the Indian Ocean and threatening the marine life on the surface; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard and further steps Government propose to take to keep the Indian Ocean free from pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Oil pollution from slicks and other petroleum products is a well known phenomenon along the oil tanker routes in the Indian Ocean. However, there is no direct evidence avail-